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Fiftieth session
Agenda item 20 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru: draft resolution

Emergency assistance to Costa Rica and Nicaragua

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/202, of 20 December 1988, on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, and 45/199, of 21 December 1990, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/45, on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Deeply concerned at the large number of persons killed, missing and affected by hurricane César, which struck Costa Rica and Nicaragua on 26, 27 and 28 July 1996, thereby rendering more difficult the task of consolidating a region of peace, democracy, freedom and development in Central America,

Also deeply concerned at the tremendous damage caused by hurricane César to the infrastructures and economies of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, which could adversely affect the economic and social development plans of both countries,

Aware of the efforts of the Governments and peoples of Costa Rica and Nicaragua to save lives and alleviate the suffering of the victims of hurricane César,

Bearing in mind the enormous effort that will be required to ameliorate the serious situation caused by this natural disaster,

Recognizing the prompt response of Governments, organs and organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, international and regional agencies and non-governmental organizations in providing relief,

Also recognizing that the magnitude of the disaster and its medium- and long-term effects will require, as a complement to the efforts already being made by the peoples and Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, a demonstration of international solidarity and humanitarian concern to ensure more broad-based and adequate multilateral cooperation in order to meet the immediate emergency situation in the affected areas and initiate the process of reconstruction,

1. Expresses its solidarity and support to the Governments and peoples of Costa Rica and Nicaragua;

2. Expresses its gratitude to all the States of the international community, the international agencies and the non-governmental organizations that have provided emergency relief to the affected countries;

3. Calls upon all States of the international community as a matter of urgency to contribute generously, to the extent that they are able, to relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in the affected countries;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with international financial institutions, and organs and organizations of the United Nations system, to assist the Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua in identifying their short-, medium- and long-term needs and also to collaborate in the reconstruction efforts undertaken by the Governments of the affected countries.

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Agenda item 20 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and United States of America: revised draft resolution

Emergency assistance to Costa Rica and Nicaragua

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/202, of 20 December 1988, on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, and 45/199, of 21 December 1990, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/45, on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Deeply concerned at the large number of persons killed, missing and affected by hurricane César, which struck Costa Rica and Nicaragua on 26, 27 and 28 July 1996, thereby rendering more difficult the task of consolidating a region of peace, democracy, freedom and development in Central America,

Also deeply concerned at the tremendous damage caused by hurricane César to the infrastructures and economies of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, which could adversely affect the economic and social development plans of both countries,

Aware of the efforts of the Governments and peoples of Costa Rica and Nicaragua to save lives and alleviate the suffering of the victims of hurricane César,

Bearing in mind the enormous effort that will be required to ameliorate the serious situation caused by this natural disaster,

Recognizing the prompt response of Governments, organs and organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, international and regional agencies and non-governmental organizations in providing relief,

Also recognizing that the magnitude of the disaster and its medium- and long-term effects will require, as a complement to the efforts already being made by the peoples and Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, a demonstration of international solidarity and humanitarian concern to ensure more broad-based and adequate multilateral cooperation in order to meet the immediate emergency situation in the affected areas and initiate the process of reconstruction,

1. Expresses its solidarity and support to the Governments and peoples of Costa Rica and Nicaragua;

2. Expresses its gratitude to all the States of the international community, the international agencies and the non-governmental organizations that have provided emergency relief to the affected countries;

3. Calls upon all States of the international community as a matter of urgency to contribute generously, to the extent that they are able, to relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in the affected countries;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources and in cooperation with international financial institutions, and organs and organizations of the United Nations system, to assist the Governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua in identifying their short-, medium- and long-term needs and also to collaborate in the reconstruction efforts undertaken by the Governments of the affected countries.

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Fiftieth session
Agenda item 38

THE SITUATION OF DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI

Argentina, Canada, Chile, France, Haiti, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Having considered further the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti",

Recalling all its relevant resolution, as well as those adopted on the question by the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted on the question by the Organization of American States,

Reaffirming that the goal of the international community remains the full observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the promotion of social and economic development,

Reaffirming also its support to the people and the Government of Haiti for their efforts to advance democracy, respect for human rights and the reconstruction of Haiti,

Strongly supporting the continuing leadership of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States in the efforts of the international community in furthering political progress in Haiti,

Welcoming the establishment of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti and the contributions of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his staff,

Welcoming also the continued efforts by States to provide humanitarian assistance and technical cooperation to the people of Haiti,

Supporting fully the contribution of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti and the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti in the establishment of a climate of freedom and tolerance propitious to the full observance of human rights and the full restoration of the constitutional democracy of Haiti and encouraging the International Civilian Mission to continue to cooperate with the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti and others participating in institution-building, including police training activities,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 13 August 1996 on the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti, 1/

Noting the policy statements by Haitian authorities that the Government of Haiti remains committed to upholding human rights and improving accountability and welcoming the continuing improvement in the situation of human rights in Haiti,

1. Welcomes the recommendation of the Secretary-General contained in his report to renew the mandate of the joint participation of the United Nations with the Organization of American States in the International Civilian Mission to Haiti, with the tasks of:

(a) Verifying full observance by Haiti of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(b) Providing technical assistance at the request of the Government of Haiti in the field of institution-building, such as the training of the police or the establishment of an impartial judiciary;

(c) Supporting the development of a programme for the promotion and protection of human rights, in order to further the establishment of a climate of freedom and tolerance propitious to the consolidation of long-term constitutional democracy in Haiti and to contribute to the strengthening of democratic institutions;

2. Decides to authorize, within existing resources and on the basis of the above recommendations, the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations component of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti until 31 December 1996, according to the terms of reference and modalities under which the Mission is operating;

3. Pays tribute to the Haitian people in their ongoing quest for strong and lasting democracy, justice and economic prosperity;

4. Reaffirms once again the commitment of the international community to continue its technical, economic and financial cooperation with Haiti in support of its economic and social development efforts and in order to strengthen

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Haitian institutions responsible for dispensing justice and guaranteeing democracy, respect for human rights, political stability and economic development;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system providing humanitarian aid and contributing to the development of Haiti;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly regular reports on the work of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti;

7. Decides to keep the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti" under review at its fifty-first session.